



Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Newsletter

February 2008

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) is committed to keeping the people of Massachusetts informed about critical homeland security, emergency management, personal safety, and criminal justice issues. The EOPSS newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, and funding opportunities among public safety professionals.

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EOPSS Funding Opportunities

2007-2008 Traffic Enforcement and Equipment Grant Program

Application Deadline: Rolling Open Enrollment through August 2008

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security announces the availability of over \$3.6 million in federal funds for high visibility traffic enforcement and equipment grants through September 2008. Funds are available for local police and campus police departments to conduct mobilizations entitled “Click It or Ticket,” “Road Respect,” and “Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.” In addition, participating grant departments will be eligible to purchase traffic safety equipment, signage, and materials after July 1, 2008 upon successful completion of selected enforcement mobilizations.

For more information: www.mass.gov/eopsfunding (click on Highway Safety) or contact Caroline Hymoff, Highway Safety Division at 617-725-3334 Caroline.Hymoff@state.ma.us.

Other Funding Opportunities

Research on Terrorism

Application Deadline: February 5, 2008

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding to conduct social science research on terrorism. Proposed research should aim to improve criminal justice and first-responder strategies for preventing, preparing for, responding to, and mitigating terrorist incidents at the federal, state, and local levels. Applications may address either domestic or international terrorism.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000818.pdf>.

Research and Evaluation on the Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of Elderly Individuals and Residents of Residential Care Facilities

Application Deadline: February 5, 2008

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding research in the area of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of individuals over the age of 65 and individuals of any age who reside in residential care facilities. Applications should address gaps in NIJ’s ability to prevent, detect, and respond to such abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Applications proposing research in other areas will be considered, but should explain how the proposed project will fill a critical gap in the field’s knowledge and practice.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000817.pdf>.

Research on Human Trafficking

Application Deadline: February 12, 2008

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding for research projects to address knowledge gaps related to trafficking of persons in the United States. NIJ is particularly interested in research related to labor trafficking, demand reduction for sex trafficking and commercial sex acts, and identifying and addressing issues faced by trafficking victims. All applications should be for research with direct, immediate, and obvious implications for policy and practice in the United States.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000819.pdf>.

Research on Policing

Application Deadline: February 12, 2008

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding of research on policing to improve law enforcement policies and operations at the state and local levels. NIJ is particularly interested in applications addressing integrity; policing immigrant communities; police performance measures; training; and/or evaluation research. Priority will be given to proposed evaluation research designs with multiple units of analysis and multiple measurements and applications that include additional cost/benefit analysis.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000826.pdf>.

Social Science Research in Forensic Science

Application Deadline: February 20, 2008

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding of research to determine how effectively forensic evidence is being used to identify and process criminal offenders and the impact of these advances on the criminal justice system. NIJ is particularly interested in research related to improving the use of forensic evidence in violent crime investigations; improving the practice and processing of impression evidence; improving the use and understanding of forensic evidence in the courtroom; and evaluation research. Research proposed under this solicitation should have direct implications for policy and/or practice for forensic science in the criminal justice system, and these implications should be clearly stated in the application.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000821.pdf>.

Research on Crime Prevention and Control: Focus on Gangs

Application Deadline: February 20, 2008

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for research and evaluation projects that advance the understanding and practice of gang prevention, intervention, and suppression/enforcement. NIJ is particularly interested in research and evaluation that provides useful tools or clear guidance for practitioners and policymakers in these areas. NIJ is also very interested in research or evaluation projects that develop or extend data sets designed to be available and ready for use by other researchers.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000815.pdf>.

Research and Evaluation on Justice System Responses to Violence Against Women

Application Deadline: February 20, 2008

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications to gain research knowledge to increase women's safety and improve the justice system and related responses to intimate partner violence, sexual assault, stalking, and teen dating violence perpetrated against women. NIJ is particularly interested in research on female victims' safety and protection; programs and policies to hold offenders accountable; law enforcement, prosecution, and judicial responses; coordinated community responses; and effective responses to violence against women in diverse communities. The primary goal of the program is to support research on the effectiveness of strategies and interventions that will result in general and useful information for policy and practice.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000824.pdf>.

FY 2008 National Field-Generated Training, Technical Assistance, and Demonstration Projects
Application Deadline: All applications under “National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims” are due February 21, 2008. All others are due May 29, 2008.

The Office for Victims of Crime seeks applications for funding that support the development of national-scope training, technical assistance, and demonstration project initiatives. All initiatives must be focused on improving the capacity of victim service providers and allied practitioners in advancing rights and services for crime victims in the following areas: elder abuse, sexual assault, victim restitution, child abuse, youth victimization, capacity building for victim service providers/organizations, victim services in corrections settings, domestic violence, stalking, the implications of DNA evidence for victims, training and technical assistance on crime victims’ rights, and observance of the National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims. Applicants are limited to private nonprofit organizations, including faith-based and community-based organizations, colleges or universities, or public agencies.

For more information: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/pdf/FY08_fieldtraining.pdf.

Crime and Justice Research

Application Deadline: March 5, 2008

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding of social and behavioral research on, and evaluations related to, crime and justice topics relevant to State and/or local criminal and juvenile justice policy and practice. Most crime and justice topics that are relevant to policymakers and practitioners are eligible for consideration. Priority will be given to applications for funding of research in areas that do not duplicate NIJ’s targeted solicitations, or applications that could be considered under those targeted solicitations but require substantially higher levels of funding.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000820.pdf>.

Research and Publications

Increasing Efficiency in Crime Laboratories

This “in short” report, published by the National Institute of Justice, presents a brief overview of how crime laboratories across the country have successfully utilized efficiency techniques to reduce substantial forensic evidence backlogs. These techniques, which include process mapping, efficiency forums, and business process management, help managers review internal laboratory systems and processes to assess how best to delegate staff and resources, specifically in the redesign and reorganization of laboratory procedures.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/220336.pdf>.

Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Courts, 2004

Based on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) report “Juvenile Court Statistics 2003-2004”, this Fact Sheet presents statistics on delinquency cases processed over a 10 year period by U.S. Courts with juvenile jurisdiction. Included in the report are offender demographics such as age, gender, and race, as well as case outcomes such as detention, intake decision, waiver to criminal court, and adjudication and disposition. The data used in the report, collected by the National Juvenile Court Data Archive, originated from nearly 1,900 courts nationwide.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/fs200801.pdf>.

Petitioned Status Offense Cases in Juvenile Courts, 2004

Based on the OJJDP report “Juvenile Court Statistics 2003-2004”, this Fact Sheet provides a brief overview of petitioned status offense cases in five major categories: running away, truancy, curfew law violations, ungovernability, and underage liquor law violations. Included in the report are offender demographics such as age, gender, and race, as well as sources of referral, detentions, and adjudications and dispositions. The data used in the report, collected by the National Juvenile Court Data Archive, originated from nearly 1,900 courts nationwide.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/fs200802.pdf>.

Drug Offense Cases in Juvenile Courts, 1985-2004

Based on the OJJDP report “Juvenile Court Statistics 2003-2004”, this Fact Sheet presents data on delinquency cases involving drug offenses processed over a 20 year period by U.S. courts with juvenile jurisdiction. Included in the report are offender demographics such as gender and race, as well as detentions and adjudications. The data used in the report, collected by the National Juvenile Court Data Archive, originated from nearly 1,900 courts nationwide.

Access full text: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/fs200803.pdf>.

Prescription For Danger: A Report on the Troubling Trend of Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drug Abuse Among the Nation’s Teens

Published by the Office of National Drug Control Policy, this report focuses on teen use and abuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Topics include: rates of prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse; frequency of multi-drug use; myths and consequences of drug abuse; sources and ease of availability; and the role of parents.

Access full text at: http://theantidrug.com/pdfs/prescription_report.pdf.

Crime Gun Risk Factors: Buyer, Seller, Firearm, and Transaction Characteristics Associated with Gun Trafficking and Criminal Gun Use

This report, published by the National Institute of Justice, provides the most up-to-date evidence on the risk of crime associated with high-risk gun buyers, problem gun dealers, preferred guns used to commit crimes, purchases involving multiple guns, and other suspected trafficking indicators. The study is based on three sets of analyses: an analysis of handgun sales in Maryland; an analysis of handgun sales in the metro-Baltimore area; and an analysis of handgun sales in the Maryland counties of the Washington, DC, metropolitan area.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/221074.pdf>.

Protecting America’s Ports: Promising Practices

This goal of this report, published by the National Institute of Justice, was to identify the best and most promising local practices in port security. Descriptive case studies of successful and innovative security practices were conducted in 17 seaports, with a specific concentration on intergovernmental and public-private partnerships.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/221075.pdf>.

Conferences and Trainings

National Cyber Crime Symposium

February 11-14, 2008 in Long Beach, CA

Sponsored by the United States Pretrial Services Agency for the Central District of California, in partnership with the Federal Probation and Pretrial Officers Association, this conference will bring together nationally renowned professionals in the areas of on-line addiction/psychological disorders, academic research, digital evidence identification, and computer forensics. Topics include: cyber crime; digital evidence preservation; and cyber-offender management. Specifically, the conference will focus on how these areas relate directly to pretrial, probation, and supervised release.

For more information: <http://www.cacpt.uscourts.gov/conf/default.htm>.

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) 60th Annual Scientific Meeting

February 18-23, 2008 in Washington, DC

Sponsored by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, this conference gathers professionals in the field of forensic sciences to discuss updates and innovations in forensics. The conference consists of ten sessions showcasing an array of forensic specialties including: criminalistics; engineering sciences; general forensics, jurisprudence; odontology; pathology/biology; physical anthropology; psychiatry and behavioral science; questioned documents; and toxicology.

For more information: http://www.aafs.org/default.asp?section_id=meetings&page_id=aafs_annual_meeting.

“Train-the-Trainer” Workshop: Choose to Refuse, a Heroin and OxyContin Prevention Education Program

March 6, 2008 in Salem, MA

Hosted by the office of District Attorney Jonathan W. Blodgett, this “train-the-trainer” workshop will focus on the *Choose to Refuse, a Heroin and OxyContin Prevention Education Program*, a six session curriculum that helps high school students understand the dangers of heroin and OxyContin. The workshop will also incorporate the newly developed program, *choose 2 refuse*, which includes video clips of youth in recovery and can be presented to students as a one hour PowerPoint presentation. All participants will receive copies and brochures for both programs. Workshop participation is free; registration is required.

For more information (and to register), please call (978) 745-6610 ext 5082, or email diane.steele@state.ma.us by March 3, 2008.

35th National Conference on Juvenile Justice

March 9-12, 2008 in St. Louis, MO

Sponsored by the National District Attorneys Association and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, this conference offers juvenile justice professionals a forum to gain national perspective on common issues faced by those in the field. Sessions are designed to encourage and stimulate participants and will highlight effective practice and programs, offer suggestions and recommendations, and provide networking opportunities. Breakout sessions topics include: truancy and safe schools; gangs; family violence; child abuse and neglect; juvenile sex offenders; and substance abuse.

For more information: http://www.ndaa-apri.org/events/conferences/2008_jj_conf.html.

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 45th Annual Meeting: “American Justice: Rhetoric or Reality?”

March 11-15, 2008 in Cincinnati, OH

Sponsored by the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, this conference is expected to attract approximately 2,000 educators, researchers, practitioners, and students currently working in the criminal justice field. Topics include: sentencing policy and process; evidentiary issues, immigration and crime control; police, community, and sex offenders; fear of crime on campus; programs for female offenders; and organized crime, corruption, and terrorism.

For more information: http://www.acjs.org/pubs/167_668_2915.cfm.

Blueprints Conference 2008

March 17-19, 2008 in Denver, CO

Sponsored by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, this conference provides continuing education and networking opportunities for effective and promising evidence-based prevention and intervention programs for juveniles and their families. The ultimate goal of this conference is to set a foundation for future collaboration among evidence-based programs. Participants will include: community prevention advocates; department heads of agencies responsible for violence and drug prevention efforts; state and local government leaders responsible for prevention funding and initiatives; leaders of the criminal justice systems, and program implementers.

For more information: <http://www.blueprintsconference.com/about.html>.

News

Patrick to Raise Safety Spending by \$106m

***The Boston Globe*, January 23, 2008**

According to *The Boston Globe*, Governor Deval Patrick’s proposed state budget increases public safety funding by approximately \$106 million. The proposal includes increased funding for the Medical Examiner’s Office, the State Police Crime Lab, the hiring of 100 new police officers, and changes at the Department of Correction to reduce the incidences of prison suicides. The new budget would also provide additional funding for firefighting equipment and training programs, summer jobs initiatives, centers for at-risk youth, and anti-gang violence programs.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/01/23/patrick_to_raise_safety_spending_by_106m/.

Governor Nominates 2 Associate Justices

***The Boston Globe*, January 23, 2008**

Governor Deval Patrick recently announced his nominations for two associate justices, reports *The Boston Globe*. Linda S. Fidnick, a partner at an Amherst law firm, advocate, and specialist in the field of domestic relations, was nominated as an associate justice to the Hampshire County Division of the Probate and Family Court. Richard A. Simmons, a partner at a Pittsfield law firm, was nominated to become a probate and family court associate circuit justice. The nominees will fill vacancies created by the retirement of Chief Justice Dunphy and the appointment of Judge Geoffrion to the Hampden County Division of the Probate and Family Court.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/01/23/patrick_to_raise_safety_spending_by_106m/.

Council OKs Deal with Firefighters

***The Lowell Sun*, January 23, 2008**

Lowell city councilors unanimously approved a new three-year contract giving the nearly 200 members of city firefighters union an 8 percent pay increase over two years, states *The Lowell Sun*. The pay raises given to Local 853 are similar to those of the police superiors officer's union, previously approved in December. The deal is retroactive to the start of the current fiscal year, July 1, and expires June 30, 2010. City Manager Bernie Lynch is still in negotiations with approximately 10 other collective-bargaining units.

Access full text at: http://www.lowellsun.com/local/ci_8054787.

Police Break 'Major' Drug Ring in Berkshires

***The Boston Herald*, January 26, 2008**

According to an article in *The Boston Globe*, police arrested six people associated with what is being referred to as a major heroin and cocaine distribution ring. The result of a three-month investigation by the Berkshire County Drug Task Force, the police seized thousands of dollars worth of drugs and a firearm in raids conducted in Adams, Williamstown, Pittsfield, and Greenfield. The alleged ringleader of the group is still at large, and is suspected of leaving the state.

Access full text at: <http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/general/view.bg?articleid=1069184>.

State's High Court to Consider Allowing Judges to Speak Out

***The Boston Globe*, January 29, 2008**

Following publicity around the case of Daniel Tavares Jr., the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court has named an advisory committee to reconsider the judicial conduct code that restricts public comment by judges, according to *The Boston Globe*. Chaired by Superior Court Judge E. Susan Garsh, and composed of eight judges, two lawyers, and a Harvard law professor, the committee was established because of a "genuine confusion" about what is allowable under the existing judicial rules. Currently, the rule bans judges from making public comments about pending or impending proceedings, but does not prohibit them from making public statements in the course of their official duties or from explaining procedures of the court "for public information." A report on any recommended revisions suggested by the committee is expected to be submitted to the SJC within three months.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/01/29/states_high_court_to_consider_allowing_judges_to_speak_out/.

Crime is Down, but Lowell Chief Warns, 'We Need to do More'

***The Lowell Sun*, January 30, 2008**

Last year Lowell experienced a total crime decrease of nearly 2 percent, reports *The Lowell Sun*. Despite a spike in violence in the spring of last year, violent crime dropped by 4.3 percent and property crimes dropped by 1 percent, for an overall decline of 1.7 percent in total crimes. More specifically, aggravated assaults, beatings, shootings, stabbings, and car thefts decreased by nearly 10 percent. Superintendent Kenneth Lavalee attributes this decline to a crackdown on alcohol-related incidences in the downtown area and targeted patrols by the gang unit and other officers in crime hot spots. The data will be forwarded to the Massachusetts State Police and the FBI; final national numbers are expected to be released in the fall.

Access full text at: http://www.lowellsun.com/local/ci_8118825.

Announcements

Massachusetts White Ribbon Day 2008

February 14, 2008 in Great Hall, State House, Boston

Join Governor Deval Patrick, Lt. Governor Timothy Murray, Mayor Thomas Menino, and White Ribbon Day Co-Chairs Former Governor Paul Cellucci and Northeastern University Athletic Director Peter Roby and men from across the Commonwealth in speaking out against violence and helping to create a world free from abuse. The White Ribbon Campaign was founded and launched in Canada, two years after the Montréal Massacre in which 14 women students were systematically killed and 13 other students wounded by a lone gunman. 100,000 men wore ribbons across Canada that first year. Today, the WRC is a worldwide campaign in 47 countries, with well over 5,000,000 signatures and growing.

For more information: www.janedoe.org/whiteribbonday.

Contact Information

We welcome and encourage your comments. Please email us at: EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us

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To unsubscribe to this newsletter send an email to: leave-eopsnewsletter@listserv.state.ma.us

For additional information on EOPSS' grant programs or agencies please visit: www.mass.gov/eops